

Message Text

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43

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 IO-11 SSO-00

NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

PA-02 PRS-01 AID-05 /059 W

----- 112960

O R 151520Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY GABORONE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7495

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LOURENCO MARQUES

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MASERU

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

UNCLAS GABORONE 0059

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, OAU, AO, BC, ZA, TZ, MZ

SUBJECT: KHAMA RETURNS FROM THE OAU SUMMIT

REF: GABORONE 0043 (NOTAL)

CAPE TWON FOR EMBASSY

1. PRESIDENT SIR SERETSE KHAMA RETURNED EVENING OF JANUARY 14 FROM OAU SUMMIT AT ADDIS HAVING BEEN DELAYED FOR A MEETING WITH KAUNDA, MACHEL AND NYERERE IN DAR MORNING OF SAME DAY. KHAMA TRAVELLED ON A ZAMBIA AIR FORCE AIRCRAFT AND WAS ACCOMPANIED ONLY BY HIS PRIVATE SECREATARY L.M. L. J. LEGWAILA AND HIS SECURITY STAFF.

2. KHAMA WAS GREETED BY HIS FAMILY, MEMBERS OF HIS CABINET,
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GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS AND THE DIPLOMATIC CORPS AND GAVE AN

UNEXPECTED AND UNUSUALLY LONG PRESS CONFERENCE IN THE TRANSIT LOUNGE. REFERENCES TO THE OAU MEETING ITSELF AND THE ANGOLA SITUATION WERE GENERALLY IN LINE WITH COMMENTS REFTEL IN WHICH HE REITERATED BOTSWANA'S POSITION IN SUPPORT OF A GOVERNMENT OF NATIONAL UNITY.

3. IN ADDITION, KHAMA TOOK NOTE OF THE FACT THAT BOTSWANA HAD CALLED FOR A SUMMIT MEETING FROM THE BEGINNING AND INDICATED THAT IN PART IT WAS THE DELAY IN HAVING A MEETING THAT SOLIDIFIED THE TWO OPPOSING POSITIONS. IN RESPONSE TO A QUESTION AS TO WHETHER THE OAU SPLIT ON THE ANGOLA SITUATION HAD WEAKENED THE RELATIONSHIPS AMONG THE HEADS OF THE OAU, KHAMA RESPONDED THAT QTE WE HAVE NOT REALLY STRENGTHENED THE OAU UNQTE. HE WENT ON TO SAY THAT QTE THE ONLY WAY WE COULD POSSIBLY STRENGTHEN THE OAU IS BY RESOLVING A SITUATION WHICH IS AS TRAGIC AS THIS ONE BECAUSE IT INVOLVES THE DEATH OF MANY PEOPLE WHILST WE ARE TALKING UNQTE.

4. AS A PART OF A GENERAL STATEMENT ON THE ANGOLA SITUATION, KHAMA MADE REFERENCE TO QTE EXTERNAL FORCES UNQTE IN THE FOLLOWING TERMS: QTE THERE WAS A GENERAL CONDEMNATION OF SOME OF THOSE EXTERNAL FORCES: ONE OF THEM WAS SOUTH AFRICA, AND THE OTHER WAS THE SOVIET UNION, THE OTHER THE UNITED STATES AND SO ON -- THAT IS WAS NO LONGER LEFT TO THE ANGOLAN PEOPLE BUT IT WAS A MATTER OF POWER POLITICS WHICH WAS NOW DETERMINING THE DESTINIES OF THE ANGOLAN PEOPLE UNQTE.

5. IN DISCUSSING THE DAR MEETING, KHAMA ADMITTED THAT THE OUTCOME WAS QTE TO AGREE TO DISAGREE: AGREE THAT WE THINK IT IS IN THE INTEREST OF SOUTHERN AFRICA THAT THERE SHOULD BE GENERAL PEACE AND CONCORD... BUT THEN, OF COURSE, AS INDEPENDENT COUNTRIES EACH ONE OF US COULD TAKE HIS OWN LINE UNQTE.

6. EXTERNAL AFFAIRS MINISTER A.M. MOGWE AND ACTING SECRETARY FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS S.A. MPUCHANE ARRIVED MORNING OF JAN. 15 BY A COMMERCIAL FLIGHT VIA JOHANNESBURG. APPARENTLY THEY HAD REMAINED IN LUSAKA RATHER THAN ACCOMPANY THE PRESIDENT TO DAR.

7. IN BRIEF PLANE-SIDE INTERVIEW, MOGWE CALLED HIMSELF QTE DISAPPOINTED BUT NOT DISCOURAGED UNQTE ON ANGOLA SITUATION. HE UNCLASSIFIED

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PRONOUNCEEE OAU QTE STILL INTACT UNQTE BECAUSE NONE OF THE PARTICIPANTS IN ADDIS WERE QTE KEEN FOR A SHOWDOWN UNQTE. IN ADDITION, MOGWE CLAIMED TO BELIEVE THAT THERE IS STILL SOME ROOM FOR COMPROMISE, EVEN AMONG THOSE WHO HAVE RECOGNIZED MPLA. HOWEVER, HE DID NOT ELABORATE ABOUT POINTS ON WHICH HE THINKS COMPROMISE POSSIBLE.

THOMSEN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, PRESS CONFERENCES, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS, SUMMIT MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 15 JAN 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976GABORO00059
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760015-0851
From: GABORONE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760155/aaaabwny.tel
Line Count: 114
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 GABORONE 43
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: mendozsm
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 26 JUL 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <26 JUL 2004 by castelsl>; APPROVED <24 AUG 2004 by mendozsm>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: KHAMA RETURNS FROM THE OAU SUMMIT
TAGS: PFOR, AO, BC, ZA, TZ, MZ, OAU, (KHAMA, SERESTE)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006